

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington D.C. 20554

In the Matter Of)	
)	
Section 63.71 Application of)	
)	WC Docket No. _____
Conversent Communications of)	
Rhode Island, LLC)	
)	
)	
For Authority Pursuant to Section 214 of)	
the Communications Act of 1934 to)	
Discontinue the Provision of Service)	
)	

**SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION OF
CONVERSENT COMMUNICATIONS OF RHODE ISLAND, LLC**

Conversent Communications of Rhode Island, LLC (“Windstream”), through its undersigned counsel and pursuant to Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §214, and Section 63.71 of the Federal Communications Commission’s (“Commission”) rules, 47 C.F.R. §63.71, hereby files this Application to discontinue the provision of digital subscriber line (“DSL”) service to certain customers located in Providence, Rhode Island. In support of this Application, Windstream submits the following information:

1. Information listed in 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(1)-(4) (47 C.F.R. § 63.71(b)(2)):

a. Name and Address of Carrier (47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(1)-(4), (b)(2)):

Conversent Communications of Rhode Island, LLC

4001 North Rodney Parham Rd.
Little Rock, AR 72212

b. Date of Planned Discontinuance (47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(2), (b)(2)):

On or about June 30, 2018.

c. Point of Geographic Areas of Service Affected (47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(3), (b)(2)):

DSL service will be discontinued to certain customers in Providence, Rhode Island.

d. Brief Description of the Type of Service to be Affected (47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(4), (b)(2)):

The service to be affected is digital subscriber line (DSL) service.

2. Brief Description of the Dates and Methods of Notice to All Affected Customers (47 C.F.R. § 63.71 (b)(3)):

On May 4, 2018, Windstream sent by First Class U.S. Mail notice to all affected customers of the planned discontinuance. A copy of such notice is attached hereto as Attachment 1, which is compliant with, among other things, Section 63.71(a)(5) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(5).

3. Regulatory Classification of Carrier (47 C.F.R. § 63.71 (a)(4)):

Windstream is nondominant with respect to the services that it proposes to discontinue.

4. Service:

In accordance with Section 63.71(a)(1) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(1), Windstream is submitting a copy of this Application by First Class U.S. Mail to the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission, to the Office of Governor Gina M. Raimondo and also to the Secretary of Defense (at the address given in 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)).

5. Additional Questions Regarding This Application May be Addressed to the Undersigned.

6. Circumstances of Discontinuance.

In Providence, Rhode Island, Windstream provides DSL service to certain customers on an end-of-life platform that is scheduled to be decommissioned on or about June 30, 2018. The discontinuance of DSL service will affect two (2) enterprise customers and four (4) small business customers in Providence, Rhode Island.

These customers will not be unduly harmed because they have comparable options at comparable rates from other providers serving Providence.

7. Conclusion

Windstream believes that the proposed discontinuance is reasonable and necessary. As outlined herein, Windstream will take reasonable steps, to the extent that is able, to assure that the discontinuance of this service is not unduly disruptive to the present or future public convenience and necessity. Accordingly, Windstream respectfully requests that the Commission permit it to discontinue the provision of DSL service to certain customers in Providence, Rhode Island pursuant to Section 63.71.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Cesar Caballero" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cesar Caballero
Senior Regulatory Counsel
Windstream Services, LLC
4001 N. Rodney Parham Rd.
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Little Rock, AR 72112
(501) 748-7142
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May 8, 2018

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing Section 63.71 Application was served this 8th day of May 2018, by mailing true and correct copies thereof, postage prepaid, to the following persons to the addresses listed below.

Secretary of Defense
Attn: Special Assistance for Telecommunications
Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission
89 Jefferson Boulevard
Warwick, RI 02888

Office of Governor Gina M. Raimondo
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903



Cesar Caballero

Attachment 1 – Customer Notice

WINDSTREAM
ENTERPRISE

Conversent Communications of Rhode
Island, LLC
4001 N. Rodney Parham Rd.
Little Rock, AR 72212

May 4, 2018

If you are not the site contact or administrator, please kindly pass this important notification on to the appropriate party.

<<Customer>>
<<Addr_Line_1>>
<<Addr_Line_2>>
<<City>>, <<State_Code>> <<Zip_Code>>

IMPORTANT: Service Discontinuance Notification for Account # <<Acct_No>>
This Change in Service Requires Action on Your Part

Dear Valued Customer,

Because your business matters to us, we wanted to provide advance notification of an important change we are making for services in your area. This change will require action on your part in order to avoid service interruption.

The platform that currently supports digital subscriber line (DSL) services has reached the end of its useful life and will soon be decommissioned. As a result, certain customers in Providence, Rhode Island area will have these services retired on or about June 30, 2018. We would like to work with you to make you aware of your options and assist you in any way possible to ensure a smooth transition prior to the service retirement.

The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service (or reduction or impairment) unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments as soon as possible, but no later than 15 days after the Commission releases public notice of the proposed discontinuance. You may file your comments electronically through the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System using the docket number established in the Commission's public notice for this proceeding, or you may address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, Washington, DC 20554, and include in your comments a reference to the § 63.71 Application of Conversent Communications of Rhode Island, LLC. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance (or reduction or impairment) upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.

We will be reaching out to you shortly to discuss an alternative service solution. Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. If you have any questions, please contact us at 855.352.2731.

Sincerely,

Customer Care